

Volunteering At LINKnet

Minority Ethnic mentoring service



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Our Director's Message

Ranbandara Dissanayaka

What is Volunteering?

Volunteering is when you dedicate your time and energy, without getting paid, to help others or make a positive impact on your community. It's not just about helping friends or family; it's about contributing to something bigger than yourself.

Volunteering can take many forms, from formal roles in organisations to informal help within your neighbourhood. The most important thing is that it's a choice you make freely.

Why is Volunteering Important?

Volunteering is essential because it empowers you to make a real difference in the world. It's a way to turn your good intentions into action. Whether you're cleaning up a local park, mentoring a student, or supporting a cause you care about, volunteering allows you to contribute to a better future. It's also crucial for many charities and non-profit organisations that rely on volunteers to carry out their missions and help those in need.

Benefits of Volunteering

Volunteering isn't just about helping others; it's also incredibly rewarding for you. Here are some of the benefits:

- **Personal Growth:** You'll learn new skills, gain valuable experience, and boost your confidence.
- **Social Connection:** You'll meet new people, make friends, and develop a stronger sense of community.
- **Improved Well-being:** Volunteering can reduce stress, combat loneliness, and give you a sense of purpose.
- **Career Development:** You can explore different career paths, network with professionals, and enhance your resume.
- **Making a Difference:** Most importantly, you'll be making a positive impact on the lives of others and contributing to a better world.





BE A Mentor

Know your role

Through a range of support structures and services, LINKnet aims to provide a quality experience for volunteer mentors and successful outcomes for mentees. Your commitment as a mentor will be two or three hours per week, spread over a day or two for a few months, not exceeding six months. One-to-one mentoring is found to be one of the most effective methods of people development. Mentoring is a rewarding, and personal gratification experience.

Experience and Qualities Required

- Interest in helping people.
- Years of UK work experience .
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Empathetic and understanding nature.
- Commitment to dedicating a couple of hours weekly for mentoring activities.
- Ability to adapt and to be flexible with scheduling, as the position allows both face-to-face and remote mentoring.

Training

- Training will cover the concept of mentoring, LINKnet policies and procedures etc.

Flexibility & Commitment

- Minimum commitment 2 hours per week.

Location

- It can be online and/or in person.
- Mentors and mentees can meet at LINKnet office, 31, Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG. It can be also in public places (cafes etc) and never in someone's home

Expenses

- No expenses paid.



BE A Befriender

Know your role

As a befriender for adult ethnic minorities, you might help them develop their English skills, accompany them to events and appointments, provide emotional support, and maintain boundaries. By engaging in friendly conversation or providing language lessons, you can boost their confidence in speaking English. Accompanying them can reduce isolation and build a stronger relationship. While providing emotional support can make them feel less lonely by setting clear expectations and respecting privacy.

Experience And Qualities Required

- Good communication skills.
- Flexibility and adaptability.
- Cultural sensitivity and diversity awareness.
- Time management and reliability.
- Empathy and compassion.

Training & Arrangements

- We will provide a guideline which can be read and also, we will conduct an online meeting to introduce the volunteer to the role, with continues support provided during the service when needed.

Flexibility & Commitment

- Flexible
- 1-3 hours per week

Location/Travel Details

It can be online and/or in person.

- Befrienders and befriendees can meet at LINKnet office, 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG. It can be also in public places (cafes etc) and never in someone's home. We recommend meeting in a secure location to facilitate a positive and respectful befriending relationship.

Expenses:

- No expenses paid! .

BE An Admin Volunteer



Know your role

LINKnet is looking for minority ethnic volunteers to support paid staff with the smooth running of mentoring and befriending services. This is a great opportunity to gain work experience and develop your skills in various fields of work as the roles at LINKnet will be varied. Volunteering involves twice a week (5 hours per day).

Experience And Qualities Required

LINKnet is looking for volunteers with good communication skills in English and at least one other ethnic minority language, who can communicate effectively face-to-face, over the telephone and by email, with people at all levels. IT skills and experience of Microsoft Office is preferable.

Training & Arrangements

- Training will cover the concept of volunteering, LINKnet policies and procedures etc.

Flexibility & Commitment:

- Volunteering involves twice a week (5hrs per day) work.
- Minimum commitment 10 hours per week for three months.

Location:

- 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG.

Expenses:

- Travel expenses paid (£7)

BE A Project Development Assistant Volunteer



Know your role

LINKnet is looking for minority ethnic volunteers (from all ethnic groups) to become development assistants to support the development team in the evaluation and prioritisation of volunteer mentoring and befriending services. Through a range of support structures, the voluntary job is likely to include assisting the development process of various projects, helping in completing all project-related documentation, working with the development team in project work.

Experience And Qualities Required

Project development assistant will undertake a range of administration and support tasks. The candidate needs to be adaptable and a team player with good IT skills. The role will require to liaise with partners, staff and volunteers.

Training & Arrangements

- Training will cover the concept of volunteering, LINKnet policies and procedures etc.

Flexibility & Commitment:

- Volunteering involves twice a week (5hrs per day) work.
- Minimum commitment 10 hours per week for three months.

Location:

- 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG.

Expenses:

- Travel expenses paid (£7)



Be a Fundraising Assistant Volunteer

Know your role

A fantastic ethnic minority charity is looking for enthusiastic minority ethnic volunteers (from all ethnic groups) to join the Fundraising team. You will be part of the team to raise funds to support volunteer mentoring and befriending services. You will be adding value to LINKnet by supporting the Fundraising team and maximising the efficiency of the fund-raising process through creative thinking, Identifying suitable funding streams. , carrying out administration duties and networking with key contacts.

Experience And Qualities Required

This opportunity will require someone who has:

- Good attention to detail, excellent communication, interpersonal and relationship-building skills.
- Experience of engaging people with social media campaigns, and experience in updating websites and managing social media platforms.

Training & Arrangements

- Training will cover the concept of volunteering, LINKnet policies and procedures, application-based fund raising etc.

Flexibility & Commitment:

- Volunteering involves twice a week (5hrs per day) work.
- Minimum commitment 10 hours per week for three months.

Location:

- 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG

Expenses:

- Travel expenses paid (£7)



Be an Outreach Volunteers

Know your role

LINKnet is seeking passionate minority ethnic volunteers to make a real difference in their communities through outreach work. As a volunteer, you'll play a vital role in supporting our mentoring and befriending and other services, providing valuable assistance to paid staff and directly impacting the lives of individuals from diverse backgrounds.

The Outreach Volunteer will actively seek out and recruit both clients and mentors from Minority Ethnic communities for LINKnet's mentoring program. This will involve engaging with these communities through various outreach methods (presentations, conversations, etc.) in community venues and educational institutions. The volunteer will also participate in outreach events like career fairs and community stalls under the guidance of the Regional Development Officer.

Experience And Qualities Required

- Fluent in English
- Proficient in at least one other ethnic minority language
- Able to communicate effectively in person, via phone, and email
- Comfortable interacting with people at all levels
- Good IT skills.

Training & Arrangements

- Training will cover the concept of volunteering, LINKnet policies and procedures etc.

Flexibility & Commitment:

- Volunteering involves twice a week (5hrs per day) work.
- Minimum commitment 10 hours per week for three months.

Location :

- 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG

Expenses :

- Travel expenses paid (£7)



Be an Event Volunteer

Know your role

LINKnet, an organisation committed to empowering minority ethnic communities, is looking for passionate volunteers to join their outreach efforts. As a volunteer, you'll play a crucial role in connecting with potential participants, raising awareness about LINKnet's mentoring and befriending programmes, and collaborating on impactful outreach events. Your contribution will directly impact the lives of individuals from diverse backgrounds, fostering a stronger and more inclusive community. This will involve identifying a suitable event that aligns with LINKnet's mission. carrying out all the logistic requirements from securing a venue, and planning the refreshments. You will also focus on identifying your target attendees and promoting the event through various channels, such as social media, email, or flyers. Additionally, reach out to potential facilitators and secure their participation. With all the pieces in place, you'll be ready to host a successful event that strengthens LINKnet's connection with the community and promotes diversity and inclusion.

Experience And Qualities Required

- Strong communication skills in English and at least one other ethnic minority language
- Ability to communicate effectively face-to-face, over the telephone, and via email with individuals from diverse backgrounds and levels
- Preferable IT skills and experience with Microsoft Office
- Good organisational skills

Training & Arrangements

- Training will cover the concept of volunteering, LINKnet policies and procedures etc.

Flexibility & Commitment:

- Volunteering involves twice a week (5hrs per day) work .
- Minimum commitment 10 hours per week for three months.

Location :

- 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG

Expenses :

- Travel expenses paid (£7)

BE

an Oral Health Volunteer



Know your role

Are you passionate about promoting oral health and making a difference in your community? We're seeking dedicated individuals with a background in health to join our team for an exciting project: **Eat Well For Oral Health**.

As a volunteer, you'll be instrumental in driving our mission forward.

Here's what the project entails:

- Oral Health Awareness Sessions: Educating individuals on the importance of oral hygiene and its impact on overall health.
- Cooking Sessions: Demonstrating how nutritious food choices can positively influence oral health.
- Advocacy and Aid: Supporting individuals in registering for dental clinics and ensuring access to essential oral health services.
- Outreach Work: Engaging with communities to spread awareness and provide support where it's needed most.

Experience And Qualities Required

- Health background (Desirable)
- Good communication skills. (Essential)
- Speaking Ethnic minority language (Desirable)
- Good IT skills (Essential)
- Team Player (Essential)

Training & Arrangements

- Training will cover the concept of volunteering, LINKnet policies and procedures, Project's aspects etc.

Flexibility & Commitment:

- Volunteering involves twice a week (5hrs per day) work.
- Minimum commitment 10 hours per week for three months.

Location:

- 31 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JG.

Expenses:

- Travel expenses paid (£7)



Thank You

Ranbandara Dissanayaka

Executive Director

LINKnet Mentoring Limited

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